

# SANTA FE GAZETTE.

(VOLUME V.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, FEBRUARY 6, 1864.

(NUMBER 34 NEW SERIES)

## ADVERTISEMENTS

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"Independent in all things. Neutral in nothing."

**JAMES L. COLLINS,**  
Editor and Proprietor.

SANTA FE, SATURDAY FEB. 6, 1864.

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### The Arizona Gold Fields.

HEAD-QUARTERS DEPT. OF NEW MEXICO.

Santa Fe, N. M., Sept. 20, 1863.

To the Editor of the Santa Fe Gazette.

DEAR SIR:—The people of the Territory have been anxious to learn what Surveyor General Clark would say of the new Gold Fields that he has recently visited. Hereby please find copy of a letter which he addressed to myself on this subject, which you are at liberty to publish for the information of the public.

I have the honor to be,  
Very respectfully,  
Your Ovt. servant,  
**JAMES H. CARLETON,**  
Brig. General,  
Commanding.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Santa Fe, New Mexico,

September 19, 1863.

Brig. Gen'l. JAMES H. CARLETON,

Commanding Dept. of New Mexico,

Santa Fe, New Mexico.

SIR:—Knowing that you feel a deep interest in all matters tending to the development of the material resources of this Territory, I take the liberty of communicating to you some facts relating to the newly discovered gold fields north of the Gila River, ascertained by me during my late tour of observation in that region. I reached Walker's old diggings—so called, on the 19th of August and spent the following ten days in visiting the different mining localities on the Hasiampa, Antelope and Indian Creeks (the last two affluents of the Hasiampa), Lynx Creek and "Big Bag" creek branches of the Agua Fria, and I give you the result of my observations. I found men at work at different points on the Hasiampa, from near its source ten or twelve miles down the stream, but did not get from them the actual results of their labor; was told that on nearly every claim worked to the bed rock, they found gold in paying quantities. Many claims were abandoned, for the time being, on this creek, for more promising diggings elsewhere; but from the best information I could obtain, those who remained and worked diligently were making fair miner's wages.

About fifty men, all citizens of the United States, were at work on this part of the stream. On Lynx Creek there were about fifty men at work. Mr. George Coulter informed me that he had taken from his claim between 600 and 700 dollars—had worked to the bed rock, over a space of about 12 by 20 feet. Mr. B. Cummings on the claim adjoining below, had taken out four hundred dollars, with much less labor. Frank Finney, from his claim about 600 yards above, on the day that I was at the digging, washed out three and one half ounces. Many were opening their claims and getting no gold; but I saw no one who worked his claim down to the bed rock, and had water, who was not obtaining gold in paying quantities. When I was at the mines there was no water running in either Lynx Creek or Hasiampa; but on most of the claims when they reached the bed rock, a little water accumulated, which enabled the miners to wash a few pans of dirt each day.

On Antelope and Indian Creeks, I saw many persons engaged in dry washing, as it is called, there being no water. Most of the miners on these streams are Mexicans from Sonora. I could not learn the results of their operations, but was told that most of those who worked diligently were making fair wages by this novel process. Between the Antelope and Indian Creeks, is the Antelope Mountain, on the summit of which is a placer of most extraordinary richness owned by Mr. Jack Swilling (whom you know) and five others. The peculiarity of this placer deserves more than a passing notice. On the very summit of the mountain there is a depression between rocky peaks, descending slightly to the west; through this there is a quartz ledge cropping out, running in a south-westerly and northeasterly direction. The solid rock on either side of this quartz ledge, is covered with a reddish earth, a few inches only in depth and here, Swilling informed me, they have taken out since the discovery, a few weeks since, twenty thousand dollars. The quartz ledge which probably furnished the gold has not been prospected, and its value is unknown. The gold shown me from the placer is all coarse; in a parcel of six hundred dollars, I could not find a piece worth less than ten cents.

From my own observation, and from statements of those in whose truthfulness I believe I can rely, I am satisfied that

there is gold in paying quantities in all the streams prospected in the entire district mentioned above.

On the upper portion of the Hasiampa and the branches of the Agua Fria, there is fine pine timber, but none on the lower Hasiampa or on Indian or Antelope Creeks.

When I was at the mines there was no water running in any of the streams; but in all of them sufficient for drinking purposes, and in some as observed above—sufficient for washing, a portion of the time, with a pan or a rocker.

Labor—hard and continued labor—is required in this new field, to procure gold in amounts to compensate men for going there. The chances are that they will make no more than ordinary wages, if industrious.

It was estimated that on the first inst. there were in the Weaver District (which includes Antelope and Indian Creeks and the lower diggings on the Hasiampa) one thousand persons of whom eight hundred are Mexicans from Sonora. I was sorry to learn that there was much ill feeling between them and our citizens, and fear they may have serious trouble unless there should be a military force stationed there at an early day to enforce order.

The Indians surrounding the mines (the Tonto Apaches) are now friendly, but it is not unlikely that they may be at war with the miners in a month. The mines are about 150 miles from Fort Mojave, and 220 from Tucson, the two nearest military posts.

Two companies of soldiers stationed at a suitable point at the mines would be sufficient for the purpose of protecting the miners from the Indians, and of preserving order in the district. They are entitled to this protection from our government, and I hope the Commanding General will find it in his power to furnish and station a sufficient force there at an early day.

I can say but little in favor of the agricultural resources of the mining region. I saw two small Indian cornfields on the Agua Fria, the corn in which had matured without irrigation. The grazing was excellent and water sufficient for stock. My route to the mines was over what is called the Beale wagon road (more properly perhaps the Whipple road) after I intersected it forty miles west of Albuquerque, to the San Francisco Mountains, distant from Albuquerque about three hundred and twenty miles, thence in a south-westerly direction about one hundred miles to the source of Granite Creek, a branch of the Agua Fria. Captain N. J. Fishon, in command of my escort, had three wagons which he took within six miles of the mines first discovered by Walker's party on the Hasiampa, and to that point there was no difficulty in taking wagons with light loads. We found sufficient water for our stock, but during some portion of the year there may be a scarcity. The grass in July on our way out, until within one hundred and fifty miles of the mines was generally poor, but on my return it was abundant on the whole road beyond Fort Wingate.

My escort, which you promptly and kindly furnished upon my application, was all that I could have desired, and I acknowledge, with very great pleasure, the obligation I am under to Captain Fishon and to the non-commissioned officers and men under his command for the very acceptable manner in which they performed their duties during our long, and to them, laborious journey. I commend them to your favorable consideration.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant.

(Signed) **JOHN A. CLARK,**

Surveyor General of New Mexico,

Head Quarters, Dept. of New Mexico,

Santa Fe, N. M., September 20th 1863.

"Official,"

CYRUS H. D'FORREST,

Aide-de-Camp.

### Capt. Fishon's Report.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO,

September 24, 1863.

Captain BEN. G. CUTLER,

A. A. General Dept. of New Mexico,

Santa Fe, N. M.

CAPTAIN:—In compliance with letter of instructions dated Head Quarters Department of New Mexico, Santa Fe, N. M. June 22d 1863, I have the honor to make the following report.

I left Fort Craig, N. M. on the 9th of July 1863 with twenty-seven men of my company ("D" 1st California Volunteers) as an escort to Surveyor General John A. Clark to the new Gold Fields in Arizona Territory, lately discovered by Captain Walker and party. I took with me three wagons.

On the 10th of July I arrived at Fort Wingate N. M. where I rationed my command for sixty two days and took in some forage for my mules. I left that post on the 29d of July following the Whipple wagon road (which is sometimes known as the Beale wagon road) to the San Francisco Mountains where I left this road, and traveled in a south-westerly direction until I arrived at a point within eight miles of the mines, where I went into camp with my wagons on the 18th of August 1863. (See accompanying map.)

The road is a practicable one for six mule wagons loaded with from twenty five to thirty hundred pounds. There is but one drive upon the route without water, which occurs between Zuffi and Jacob's Well, a distance of thirty-five miles. The

grass is good all the way to the mines after leaving Fort Wingate.

These mines are situated in the Tonto Apache country, about one hundred and sixty miles north west from the Pinos Villages—ninety miles southwest from the San Francisco Mountains—and about one hundred and thirty miles from "aragatton" on the Colorado River. From this latter point until the mines receive all supplies, though at present supplies come from the State of Sonora, in Mexico.

The mines, so far discovered, extend over a tract of country, from twenty to thirty miles in width and about one hundred and twenty five miles in length; and from the reports of Capt. Walker and others, and from what I myself saw, there is no doubt but that they are very rich in gold. The scarcity of water, however, prevents the mines being worked to advantage. Those who have water upon their claims, that is sufficient to wash with, make from twelve to sixty dollars per day. Others, who have no water, and who work their claims by the "dry washing" process, make equally good, and some even better, wages than that above stated. This I learned by report.

Walker and others speak confidently to the effect, that during four or five months of the year there will be sufficient water in all the gulches for purposes of sluicing, and that during that time the miner will be able to make his year's wages. From what I saw of the richness of some of the claims, there is no doubt this could be done, should their expectations be realized as regards the supply of water.

Captain Walker is confident that richer mines and more water for mining purposes exist farther to the east than at the present discovered mines, but he cannot venture info that country with his party owing to the hostility of the Pinal Apache Indians. He says the establishment of a military post on the Rio Salinas, (or Salt River) would enable the miners to develop the country, and that by the combined efforts of the troops and miners these Indians would be soon subdued.

My men who are old California miners, could not prospect these mines satisfactorily on account of the scarcity of water. Part of them went into the mines, and, from what they saw, are convinced that California never produced any claims richer than some of the claims in these new mines.

The citizen must understand, that, at these, as at all new mines, there is much against which to contend. Water, the "sine qua non" of mining processes, is exceedingly limited in the discoveries so far as made; nearly all the mining is carried on by "dry washing," a very tedious and slow process. A person going to these mines should have, upon his arrival there, not less than forty day's provisions on hand. With this amount has time to prospect and a chance of striking "good pay" equal to that of others. The gold is certainly there, but it requires labor to get it.

Captain Walker, as well as other Americans, deem it necessary for the protection of citizens and the enforcement of the laws that troops be stationed at or near the mines. The site is thought best adapted for the purposes of either a two, four or six company military post is situated on Cienega Creek, about twenty-five miles southwest of the San Francisco Mountains. At this point there is good water, fire wood within two or three miles, and building timber of the best quality, distant about eight miles. The grass is abundant and of the best quality; any amount of hay can be cut. The neighborhood abounds in deer, antelope, turkey, and other varieties of game. The villages of the Tonto Apache Indians are from twenty to forty miles distant. A road can be made, direct to Fort Mojave on the Colorado River, not to exceed in length one hundred and fifty miles, and by very little labor. From Fort Mojave all supplies could be transported, and an open communication kept through that point, between California and New Mexico. This line of communication would be materially shorter than the one now used via Fort Yuma, Tucson &c.

I deemed it necessary to leave my wagons at Cienega Creek and return with pack mules, for the reason that General Clark's duties required his presence in Santa Fe by the 20th of September, and the leaving the wagons would assure his arrival at that time. If troops are to be stationed there, and they are certainly required, the wagons and harness will be perfectly safe with Captain Walker to whom I turned those things over.—What mining tools I could not pack on the mules I distributed to the miners as there is a great scarcity of such articles among them.

I left Cienega Creek with pack mules fifteen days rations, and extra ammunition, on the 1st of September and arrived, with all my animals safe, at Fort Wingate on the 18th of September. General Clark being anxious to arrive at Albuquerque on the 16th I furnished him an escort of six men, and followed with the balance of my men, arriving at camp opposite Los Pinos, on the Rio Grande, on the 18th inst making the distance traveled, a one the last inst. four hundred and fifty miles, mostly through a hostile Indian country.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. J. FISHON,

Capt. 1st Cav. Cal. Vols.

### Distance to the new Gold Mines.

The distances in the following table from Fort Wingate to the Walker Gold Mines in Arizona are believed to be correct. Where the emigrant will find water, wood and grass on the route it will be noted in the table.

From Fort Wingate to Inscription	
Rock, water, wood and grass.	20 miles.
" Inspection Rock to Agua Fria, water, wood and grass.	15 "
" Agua Fria to Fish Spring.	15 "
" Fish Spring to Zuffi, no wood, or grass.	15 "
" Zuffi to Lower Laguna, water, wood and grass.	4 "
" Laguna to Jacob's well, no grass, wood scarce.	30 "
" Jacob's well to Navajo Springs, water and grass, sage brush.	5 "
" Navajo Springs to Carizo Creek, water in holes and grass.	10 "
" Carizo Creek to Lithodend Creek, water in holes and grass.	16 "
" Lithodend Creek to Little Colorado, good camp for wood and grass on the Colorado, water brackish.	14 "
" The point of striking the Colorado to the crossing.	21 "
" The crossing to Diablo Cañon where the river is left.	30 "
" Diablo Cañon to Tanks in Cañon, south of the road, good grass and wood.	15 "
" Cañon to Cosimo Caves, wood, water and grass.	12 "
" Cosimo Caves to San Francisco Spring, water grass and wood.	23 "
" San Francisco Spring to Laroux Spring, at which point the line of Beall's road is left for the mines.	5 "
" Laroux Spring to Volunteer Spring, good grass and water, wood scarce.	10 "
" Volunteer Spring to Cañon Spring, grass, wood and water.	11 "
" Cañon Spring to Cañon, water, grass and wood.	15 "
" Cañon to Rattlesnake Cañon, water, grass and wood.	18 "
" Rattlesnake Cañon to Cienega Creek, water and grass, wood scarce.	15 "
" Cienega Creek to Granite Creek, grass, wood and water.	16 "
" Granite Creek to Miner's camp trail.	15 "

Total distance 356 miles.

The distance from Albuquerque to Fort Wingate is about eighty five miles. From Santa Fe to Albuquerque it is seventy-five miles, and therefore, from Santa Fe to the mines, five hundred and sixteen miles.

### How a Man feels during an Earthquake.

The Boston Traveller publishes the following extract of a private letter from Manila, giving the writer's personal experience and sensations during the late terrific earthquake which visited that city:

"It would be impossible to give you an idea of the late earthquake, for though I have read the accounts of many severe ones I never could realize the position until I had felt one, and I never knew what dreadful destruction it could make until the 3d of this month. I have heard nothing talked about but earthquakes for the past ten days, every body telling their experience and giving their idea of causes and effects of earthquakes in general. My experience was that I had finished my soup, and was helping myself to fish, when three or four tremendous up and down bumps came. I ran for the Azotes, (piazza covered with iron roofing.) Then came the fearful swinging motion from north to south. I clung the post (wooden, which supports the iron roof) to keep myself from falling, expecting every moment that the stone walls which support the Azotes would give way, and that I should be thrown into the river with the house on top of me. The whole shock did not last over half a minute, but it was an eternity to me. The falling of stone houses and the roofs was terrific; part of our roof (weighing seventy tons) fell in. About three hundred feet from where I was the tower of Binondi Church fell through the roof of the church; this tower was one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet high, built of solid stone four to six feet thick. Yet the din from falling churches and houses was so great that I did not distinguish when it fell. When the shock was over the air was so filled with dust of lime that I could scarcely breathe, and there was not a breath of air. When the moon arose, later, Manila was a frightful and dreary sight to see. Every body was in the streets praying or weeping, with what they had saved, into the country. For days after, the people walked the streets without speaking. And there was no noise of carriages and no bells in the city where there were thousands moving before at all hours."